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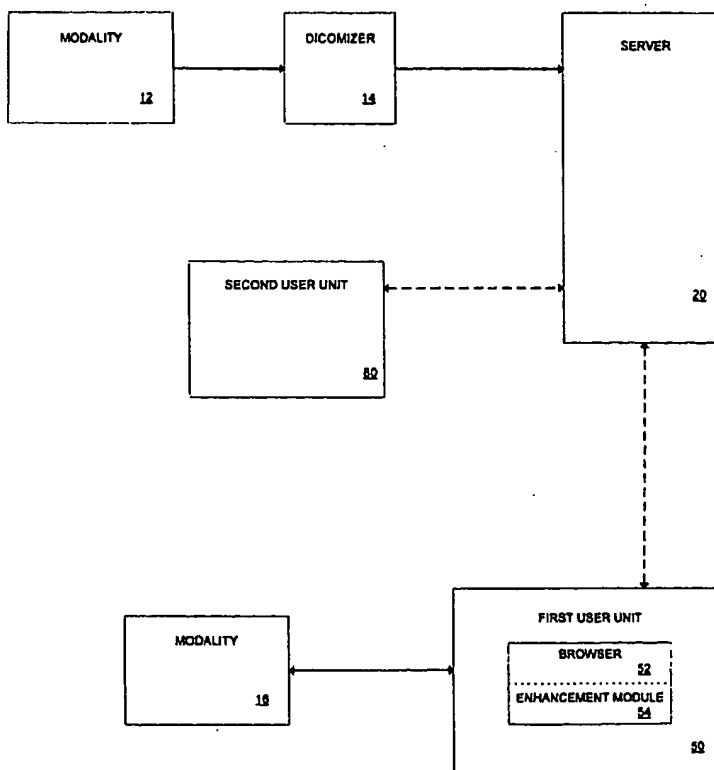
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(54) Title: MEDICAL NETWORK SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRANSFER OF INFORMATION

(57) Abstract

The assembly and communication of multimedia information from a variety of modalities to remote users with improved control is provided for by the combined use of a browser enhancement module, such as a plug-in or ActiveX control, and a server. The server includes a data interface for acquiring the multimedia data and a storage unit for receiving and storing the data. An assembly unit in the server gathers selected data to form an e-mail package in response to instructions from a remote user unit. The server further includes a processing unit to encode and compress the data prior to packaging and an e-mail server to send the package to the remote user unit or another designated user unit. Transfer instructions for the server may be provided by the remote user unit through a browser and the browser enhancement module. The browser enhancement module is therefore configured to request a file from the server, to decompress and decode received files and to transfer such files along with a user interface to a display associated with the remote user unit. The browser enhancement module is further adapted to send instructions to the server to assemble and to e-mail selected data from a file to another user unit.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 99/28085

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>PRUNA S ET AL: "Black Sea Telediab: diabetes computer system with communication technology for Black Sea region"</p> <p>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS IN BIOMEDICINE. ITAB '97. PROCEEDINGS OF THE IEEE ENGINEERING IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY SOCIETY REGION 8 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (CAT.NO.97TH8342), PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, 7 - 9 September 1997, pages 11-13, XP002139925</p> <p>1997, New York, NY, USA, IEEE, USA ISBN: 0-7803-4318-2</p> <p>page 11, line 1 -page 12, line 7; figures 1,2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/--</p>	<p>1-4, 16, 22, 37, 41, 43, 45, 50, 58, 61, 62</p>

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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PCT/US 99/28085

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	PIRA R S ET AL: "Supporting asynchronous telemedicine: multimedia mail vs. the World Wide Web vs. replicated databases" CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS. IEEE CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING, WATERLOO, ONT., CANADA, 24-28 MAY 1998, pages 341-344 vol.1, XP002139926 1998, New York, NY, USA, IEEE, USA ISBN: 0-7803-4314-X page 341, left-hand column, line 1 -page 344, right-hand column, line 8; figures 1-4	1-4,16, 22,37, 41,43, 45,50, 61,62
Y	BITTI M G ET AL: "A WWW-BASED DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM FOR MEDICAL DATA ANALYSIS AND 3D RECONSTRUCTION" COMPUTER ASSISTED RADIOLOGY. PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, XX, XX, 1 June 1996 (1996-06-01), pages 345-350, XP002057164 page 345, line 1 -page 350, line 9; figures 1,2	58
A	DAYHOFF R E ET AL: "Mechanisms for exchange of image data to support distant medical consultation" SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN MEDICAL CARE. PATIENT-CENTERED COMPUTING, PROCEEDINGS OF SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN MEDICAL CARE, WASHINGTON, DC, USA, 30 OCT.-3 NOV. 1993, pages 808-812, XP000914151 1994, New York, NY, USA, McGraw-Hill, USA ISBN: 0-07-001502-3 page 808, left-hand column, line 1 -page 812, left-hand column, line 8	1
A	HAUFE G ET AL: "PACS at work: a multimedia e-mail tool for the integration of images, voice and dynamic annotation" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS FOR IMAGE GUIDED DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY, PROCEEDINGS OF CAR'96: COMPUTER ASSISTED RADIOLOGY-10TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, PARIS, FRANCE, June 1996 (1996-06), pages 417-420, XP000914152 1996, Amsterdam, Netherlands, Elsevier, Netherlands ISBN: 0-444-82497-9 page 417, line 1 -page 419, line 15	1